



**DWP** Department for  
Work and Pensions

# **Annual Report by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Social Fund 2011/2012**



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Presented to Parliament pursuant to section 167(6) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992

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## **PREFACE**

I am pleased to present my report on the Social Fund for 2011/2012.

When I entered office I came determined to bring change to the welfare system. I am delighted that the Welfare Reform Act was signed into law in March 2012, bringing the most fundamental reforms to the social security system for 60 years.

The Act reforms the Social Fund because it is complex, over-centralised, poorly targeted and failing those it is meant to help the most. The changes mean the Social Fund is sustainable in the future and supports the move to Universal Credit.

Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans will therefore be replaced with locally based support, which will continue to provide individuals in need with help when it is most needed. It will mean however that individuals will have to take more responsibility in managing their own finances and plan for their future rather than building up benefit debts they can ill afford.

The local provision will be delivered by local authorities in England, and the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales. Localising Community Care Grant and Crisis Loan provision will provide the flexibility and the framework to respond to those in greatest need according to local circumstances. Local communities will now be able to determine how best to deliver this critical service and they will be closer to people who need it. They will be able to diagnose the underlying causes of an individual's problems rather than just providing grants or additional loans which may in the past have compounded financial problems by increasing personal debt. The Department for Work and Pensions will of course continue to work closely with local authorities in England and with the Governments of Scotland and Wales, to support them in preparing to deliver the new local provision.

Of course, much of the social fund will remain centralised. The Department for Work and Pensions will also provide a replacement national scheme for Budgeting and Crisis Loans for alignment. This provision will consist of Budgeting Advances to replace Budgeting Loans and Short-Term Advances to replace alignment Crisis Loans.

The present Budgeting Loan scheme will stay in place until full rollout of Universal Credit to help those still receiving the current income-related benefits. From 8 May 2012, I made changes to Budgeting Loans. This means that these can now be awarded to help families to buy maternity and baby items or to help towards meeting the costs of a relative's funeral. This is in addition to the help that is already available by way of a Sure Start Maternity Grant or a Funeral Payment from the regulated Social Fund.

In 2011/12 many areas of Great Britain had a much less severe winter than the previous year and an estimated 5.2 million Cold Weather Payments, worth £129.2 million were paid. In addition, Winter Fuel Payments contributed to heating costs in over 9 million pensioner households.

**THE RT HON IAIN DUNCAN SMITH MP**  
**Secretary of State for Work and Pensions**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1** This is the twenty fourth annual report to Parliament on the operation of the Social Fund for Great Britain required by sections 167(5) and (6) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.
- 1.2** The Social Fund scheme includes a regulated scheme made up of Maternity, Funeral, Cold Weather and Winter Fuel Payments; and a discretionary scheme comprising Community Care Grants and repayable Budgeting and Crisis Loans.

### **Source of data for this report**

- 1.3** The figures in this report, unless stated otherwise, are taken from the Department's Social Fund Policy, Budget and Management Information System and from scans of the Social Fund Computer System<sup>1</sup>. Together these data sources record details of every individual application, subsequent payment decision and any outstanding repayment record and also provide useful comparative data for policy purposes such as average awards, what needs they cover and how various client groups are using the Fund. These comparisons are shown in the annexes to this report.
- 1.4** The figures in this report, unless otherwise stated, do not include clerical cases that have not yet been built onto the Social Fund Computer System.

## **2. THE REGULATED SOCIAL FUND**

### **Sure Start Maternity Grants**

- 2.1** The Sure Start Maternity Grant is a payment of £500 to provide important help for families with the costs of a new baby (or babies in the event of a multiple birth) if there are no other child(ren) under 16 in the claimant's family. The grant is available to recipients, and partners of recipients, of a qualifying benefit or tax credit. These are: Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (at a rate higher than the family element), or Working Tax Credit (which includes a disability or a severe disability element).
- 2.2** Changes will be introduced later this year to pay Sure Start Maternity Grants for the additional children of subsequent multiple births, where there is already a child under 16 in the family.
- 2.3** In 2011/12 over 89,000 awards were made worth £45.3 million. Sure Start Maternity Grant statistics are in Annexes 1, 2 and 13.

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<sup>1</sup> There is also a statutory requirement to produce a Social Fund White Paper Account. Current arrangements are that this is laid in Parliament separately.

## Funeral Payments

- 2.4 The Funeral Payment scheme continues to provide help towards a simple, respectful, low-cost funeral. Payments are made to a person responsible for funeral costs who is in receipt of (or whose partner is in receipt of) a qualifying benefit or tax credit. The qualifying benefits and tax credits are the same as for the Sure Start Maternity Grant (see paragraph 2.1 above), but with the addition of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit.
- 2.5 In 2011/12, over 38,000 awards were made worth £46.7 million.
- 2.6 The Department's Bereavement Service has continued to provide a means of claiming a Funeral Payment by telephone for people reporting the death of a DWP benefit recipient. Funeral Payment claims may also be made by completing and submitting the written Funeral Payment claim form.
- 2.7 Funeral Payment statistics are in Annexes 1, 2 and 13.

## Cold Weather Payments

- 2.8 Cold Weather Payments provide help with additional costs of heating during periods of severe weather. The scheme runs from 1 November to 31 March each winter. Every residential postcode in Great Britain is linked to one of the weather stations used in the scheme. A payment is made to some-one when the average temperature has been recorded as, or is forecast to be, 0°C or below over seven consecutive days at the weather station linked to their postcode.
- 2.9 Eligible recipients of a Cold Weather Payment are

<b>Benefit in Payment</b>	<b>Qualifying Conditions for a Cold Weather Payment</b>
Pension Credit	Entitled to Cold Weather Payment (CWP).
Income Support (IS)	Entitled to a CWP if they receive a disability premium, a severe disability premium, any one of the pensioner premiums, a child disability premium within IS or Child Tax Credit (CTC) or they have a child under 5 years.
Income based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA(IB))	Entitled to a CWP if they receive a disability premium, a severe disability premium, any one of the pensioner premiums, a child disability premium within JSA(IB) or CTC or they have child under 5 years.
Income-related Employment Support Allowance (ESA(IR))	Entitled to a CWP if they receive the support component, the work-related activity component, a severe or enhanced disability premium, pensioner premium, or have a child who is disabled for whom they receive a disability premium within CTC or have a child under 5 years.

- 2.10** In November 2010 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the Cold Weather Payment rate would be increased to £25 for each qualifying period of cold weather for winter 2010/2011, and subsequent winters for the duration of this administration. In 2011/2012, just over 5.2 million awards were made worth £129.2 million.
- 2.11** The annual review of the Cold Weather Payments scheme took place in the summer of 2011. The review included: an assessment of the continuing availability of the weather stations used to provide temperature data for the scheme; whether any new stations were more suitable or should be introduced in addition to those that were currently being used; and the impact on weather station linkages of changes to the postcode system by the Royal Mail.
- 2.12** As a result of the review, the number of weather stations used in the scheme rose from 91 in 2010/11 to 92 in 2011/12. Four new weather stations were introduced. These were Aboyne, Auchincruive, Bainbridge and Threave. In addition, on the recommendation of the Meteorological Office, Dundrennan, St Catherine's Point and West Freugh weather stations were no longer used as part of the Cold Weather Payment scheme. Some of the postcodes that were linked to existing weather stations during winter 2010/11 were re-assigned to the new weather stations.
- 2.13** Representations from Members of Parliament about the suitability of individual weather stations or their links with particular postcode districts were also carefully considered. This resulted in many of these postcodes being linked to one of the four new weather stations introduced for the 2011/12 scheme.
- 2.14** Cold Weather Payment statistics are in Annexes 1 and 3.

### **Winter Fuel Payments**

- 2.15** Winter Fuel Payments help older people to meet heating costs. They are tax free and do not affect entitlement to social security benefits.
- 2.16** Forecasts indicate that over 12.7 million people in over 9 million households benefited from a Winter Fuel Payment in 2011/12. The total spent in 2011/12 on Winter Fuel Payments is estimated to be around £2.1 billion.
- 2.17** Households with someone who had reached State Pension age for women received £200 and households with someone aged 80 or over received £300.
- 2.18** Most people who had reached the State Pension age for women and who were normally living in Great Britain were eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment. Winter Fuel Payments are paid to people residing in another European Economic Area country or Switzerland if they had previously qualified for a payment in the United Kingdom. The qualifying week for winter 2011/12 payments was the week beginning 19 September 2011.

- 2.19 Over 95 per cent of payments were made automatically before Christmas 2011 without the need to claim. However, newly eligible people needed to make a claim if they were not receiving a social security benefit (or receiving only Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit or Child Benefit) during the qualifying week.

### **3. THE DISCRETIONARY SOCIAL FUND**

#### **Crisis Loans**

- 3.1 Crisis Loans are repayable awards. Although there are no qualifying benefit conditions, Crisis Loans are only available when a person has insufficient resources to prevent a serious risk to health or safety to themselves or their family.
- 3.2 In 2011/12 over 2.1 million payments were made, worth over £133.3 million.
- 3.3 There is a single national loans budget from which Budgeting Loan payments as well as Crisis Loan payments are made. As there is no new funding for the single loans budget in this current spending review period, new measures were announced in March 2011 to protect funding for the Budgeting Loan scheme by reducing Crisis Loan demand and expenditure during 2011/12 and beyond.
- 3.4 The measures were introduced from 4 April 2011 and:
- re-focused the Crisis Loan scheme so that help is mainly directed at living expenses and help with most items is now considered only when the application is made following a disaster such as flooding, fire or gas explosion
  - reduced the rate paid for daily living expenses to make it the same as the hardship payment rate of Jobseekers Allowance
  - limited the number of awards for general living expenses to 3 in a rolling 12 month period.
- 3.5 These measures have reduced Crisis Loan gross expenditure from £228.3m in 2010/2011 to £133.3m in 2011/2012. Although this has made a significant contribution to reducing expenditure, a further measure was necessary from 2 April 2012 to ensure that funding is sustainable ahead of the transfer to the new local provision.
- 3.6 The key change from 2 April 2012 means that, where some-one is living in the household of relatives or friends, the maximum Crisis Loan award for daily living expenses is now based on 30 per cent of their benefit personal allowance rate. Householders and people without accommodation continue to receive awards based on 60 percent of their personal allowance.
- 3.7 Until the Crisis Loan scheme ends in March 2013 it will continue to provide help in everyday emergencies with the following expenses:

- living expenses (including help for those claimants waiting for their first full payment of benefit in arrears)
- rent in advance to non Local Authority landlords
- board and lodging and hostel charges
- travel expenses when stranded away from home
- certain fuel charges

### **Community Care Grants**

- 3.8 Community Care Grants are not repayable. They help people with specific needs who receive a qualifying benefit to establish themselves, or to remain, in the community or to ease exceptional pressures on them and their family. The qualifying benefits are: Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, and Pension Credit.
- 3.9 For 2011/12, the national Community Care Grant budget was £141 million. This was allocated to 23 local Jobcentre Plus budget areas and over 216,000 payments were made.
- 3.10 In 2010 reports by the National Audit Office<sup>2</sup> and the Public Accounts Committee<sup>3</sup> on the Community Care Grant scheme highlighted that in some areas high priority applications were much more likely to be refused and that the Department needed to do more to reduce these local variations.
- 3.11 In response to these findings, the Department reviewed the funding allocation methodology for funding Community Care Grants to determine a fairer distribution of resources between areas; and move to the optimal funding position for the new local welfare provision that will replace Community Care Grants (and certain Crisis Loans) from 2013.

### **Budgeting Loans**

- 3.12 Budgeting Loans are repayable awards. They help people in receipt of a qualifying benefit for at least 6 months with intermittent expenses that are difficult to budget for. The qualifying benefits are: Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, and Pension Credit.
- 3.13 In 2011/12 over 1.1 million awards were made, worth nearly £448 million.
- 3.14 There is a single national loans budget from which Budgeting Loan payments as well as Crisis Loan payments are made. The single loans budget is controlled and managed at a national level to ensure that all Budgeting Loan applicants in the same circumstances are treated in a similar way wherever they live.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/1011/community\\_care\\_grant.aspx](http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/1011/community_care_grant.aspx)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmselect/cmpubacc/573/57302.htm>

- 3.15 There is no new funding for the loans budget in this spending review period therefore policy measures to maximise the loans funding available for Budgeting Loans were introduced from 4 April 2011 and from April 2012. The policy measures relate to Crisis Loans (see paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5 under Crisis Loans above) and have made a considerable contribution to manage demand levels.
- 3.16 From 8 May 2012 all eligible Budgeting Loan applicants are able to get an award for maternity or funeral expenses. This facility is available whether or not an eligible person is entitled to a Sure Start Maternity Grant or a Funeral Payment from the regulated Social Fund.
- 3.17 Discretionary loans and grants statistics are in Annexes 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12 (Budgeting Loans), Annexes 1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, and 12 (Crisis Loans) and Annexes 1, 4, 5, 6, and 12 (Community Care Grants).

### **Changes from April 2013**

- 3.18 The Welfare Reform Act 2012 abolishes the current system of discretionary payments from April 2013. In their place will be a new:
- locally based provision to replace Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans delivered by local authorities in England and the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales; and
  - national provision in the form of advances of benefit delivered by DWP to replace Budgeting Loans and alignment to benefit Crisis Loans.

The present Budgeting Loan scheme will stay in place until full rollout of Universal Credit to help those still receiving the current income related benefits. More information on the reforms can be found on the Department for Work and Pensions website<sup>4</sup>.

## **4. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

- 4.1 The Social Fund is currently delivered via a Jobcentre Plus network of Benefit Delivery Centres, Contact Centres and local Jobcentre Plus frontline offices.
- 4.2 Funeral Payment, Maternity Grant, Budgeting Loan and Community Care Grant applications are normally made in writing. The normal route for Crisis Loan applications for rent in advance or for help following a disaster is also by written application. Crisis Loan applications for help following a disaster are now part of the Community Care Grant application process so that applicants can be considered for both types of payment where appropriate.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/local-authority-staff/social-fund-reform/>

- 4.3** There is, however, a dedicated national Crisis Loan telephone service to deal with applications for living expenses over the telephone. In addition some Funeral Payment applications can now be taken by telephone when a potential recipient contacts the DWP Bereavement Service.

## **Reviews**

- 4.4** A discretionary Social Fund applicant who is dissatisfied with a decision may apply to have the decision reviewed. Consideration is given to whether the law (including the Secretary of State's Directions and Guidance) has been applied correctly, and the case handled fairly and reasonably.
- 4.5** A reviewing officer within Jobcentre Plus carries out the first review and the outcome is notified to the applicant. In 2011/2012, Jobcentre Plus dealt with over 204,000 applications for first review.
- 4.6** Applicants who remain dissatisfied can ask for a further review by a Social Fund Inspector at the Independent Review Service. Social Fund Inspectors are appointed by the Social Fund Commissioner. In 2011/2012, Social Fund Inspectors reviewed over 51,000 reviewing officer decisions.
- 4.7** The Social Fund Commissioner has reported separately on the standard of reviews carried out by Social Fund Inspectors. His report has been published.
- 4.8** A summary of Social Fund review applications is set out in Annex 12.

## **Performance management and improvement**

- 4.9** The Social Fund Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) is an internal management tool for improving Social Fund decision making standards. It was designed and developed in conjunction with the Independent Review Service. It provides a robust checking methodology for the quality of decisions, and is a mechanism for providing feedback and identifying individual training needs for operational staff. The Framework has been assured by Internal Audit.
- 4.10** The focus of the check has continued to be on areas with complex decision making. Checks were applied to 2.3% of all social fund decisions. This has resulted in a steady improvement in the overall quality of decision making in 2011/12.

## **Clearance standards**

- 4.11** Local and national performance is monitored against a comprehensive set of Social Fund clearance standards. All component parts of the set must be met to meet the overall standard. The achievement against the standard in 2011/2012 is shown below:

<b>Average Actual Clearance Times (working days)</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Achieved</b>
Community Care Grants	9	7.5
Budgeting Loans	6	4.8
Crisis Loans	2	1.9
Local review of above grants and loans	10	7.3
Funeral Payments	16	13.8
Sure Start Maternity Grants	5	4.4

- 4.12** The standard for Average Actual Clearance Times was met for all Social Fund applications.

## **5. FINANCIAL ISSUES**

### **Background**

- 5.1** Payments from the regulated Social Fund are entitlement based and not paid from a cash-limited budget. Regulations prescribe the circumstances and amounts that are payable.
- 5.2** National cash-limited budgets are allocated for loans and grants. The loans budget is a single national allocation. The grants budget is distributed to individual Jobcentre Plus budget areas.

### **The 2011/2012 discretionary Social Fund budget**

- 5.3** In April 2011 the total gross budget of £732 million comprised:
- £178.2 million of new annually managed expenditure (AME)
  - loan recoveries of £553.8 million.
- 5.4** The gross discretionary budgets allocated in April 2011 were:
- Community Care Grants           £141 million
  - Loans                                   £590 million
  - Contingency reserve               £1 million.

### **Payments from the contingency reserve**

- 5.5** There were no applications for additional funding from the contingency reserve during 2011/12.

### **Recoveries**

- 5.6** The Department's Debt Management service manages Social Fund recoveries from people who are no longer receiving benefits.

- 5.7 In 2011/12 the Debt Management service received over 668,000 new debt referrals via its automated Social Fund loan referral system.
- 5.8 £607.1 million was recovered through the repayment of loans.
- 5.9 £0.4 million of Funeral Payments was recovered from estates.
- 5.10 Details of recoveries are given in Annexes 1 and 11.

## **6. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

- 6.1 In 2011/12 the Social Fund provided payments of over £940 million, with an estimated additional £2.1 billion of Winter Fuel Payments paid to around 9 million households that include someone who had reached state pension age for women (born on or before 5/1/1951).
- 6.2 Compared to 2010/11 the 2011/12 figures show:
- Overall there were 4,756,000 applications in 2011/12 to the discretionary Social Fund, 873,000 less than in 2010/11.
  - Applications received for Community Care Grants decreased by 4.1% from 613,000 in 2010/11 to 588,000 in 2011/12.
  - The proportion of Community Care Grants decisions resulting in an initial award decreased from 41.7% in 2010/11 to 36.9% in 2011/12.
  - Applications received for Crisis Loans decreased by 24.4% from 3,422,000 in 2010/11 to 2,586,000 in 2011/12.
  - The proportion of Crisis Loan decisions resulting in an initial award increased from 78.2% in 2010/11 to 80.6% in 2011/12.
  - Applications received for Budgeting Loans decreased by 0.8% from 1,594,000 in 2010/11 to 1,582,000 in 2011/12.
  - The proportion of Budgeting Loan decisions resulting in an initial award increased from 70.0% in 2010/11 to 70.9% in 2011/12.
- 6.3 Gross expenditure on Budgeting Loans was £447.5 million, and gross expenditure on Crisis Loans was £133.3 million. Expenditure on Community Care Grants was £139.2 million.
- 6.4 Loan recoveries during the year were £607.5 million against a cautious forecast of recovery of £590 million at the beginning of 2011/12. Recoveries provided 100% of the funds needed to meet gross loans expenditure.
- 6.5 Overall during 2011/12, the discretionary Social Fund provided help in the form of over 3 million awards.

## **The 2012/13 discretionary Social Fund budget**

**6.6** In April 2012 the total gross budget of £703.4 million comprised:

- £178.2 million of new annually managed expenditure (AME)
- loan recoveries of £525.2 million.

**6.7** The £703.4 million gross discretionary Social Fund budget for 2012/13 is allocated as follows:

Single national LOANS budget	£561.4m
GRANTS budget distributed to budget areas	£141m
CONTINGENCY	£1m
TOTAL	£703.4m

## **INDEX TO ANNEXES**

### **General**

1. National Social Fund summary statistics

### **The Regulated Social Fund**

2. Sure Start Maternity Grants and Funeral Payments: awards by claimant group and by qualifying benefit or tax credit
3. Cold Weather Payment Statistics by Met Office Weather Station

### **The Discretionary Social Fund**

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6. Community Care Grants: reasons for initial refusal
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### **Social Fund Appeals**

13. Summary of Social Fund Appeals

### **Client Groups and Applicant Groups**

14. Client Groups and Applicant Group definitions

## NATIONAL SOCIAL FUND SUMMARY STATISTICS

	REGULATED SOCIAL FUND			DISCRETIONARY SOCIAL FUND		
	SSMG	CWP	FP	CCG	BL	CL
<b>Applications received (000)</b>	198	N/A	69	588	1,582	2,586
<b>Initial decisions (000)</b>	198	N/A	69	587	1,582	2,571
<b>Awards (000)</b>	89	5,167	38	216	1,122	2,071
<b>Awards as % of initial decisions</b>	44.9	N/A	54.5	36.9	70.9	80.6
<b>Initial refusals (000)</b>	124	N/A	36	369	411	449
<b>Gross expenditure £m</b>	45.3	129.2	46.7	139.2	447.5	133.3
<b>Recoveries £m</b>	N/A	N/A	0.4	N/A	458.7	148.4
<b>Net expenditure £m</b>	45.3	129.2	46.3	139.2	-11.1	-15.2
<b>Average award £</b>	507	25	1,241	509	394	64

## KEY

SSMG = SURE START MATERNITY GRANT    CCG = COMMUNITY CARE GRANT  
 CWP = COLD WEATHER PAYMENT    BL = BUDGETING LOAN  
 FP = FUNERAL PAYMENT    CL = CRISIS LOAN  
 N/A = not applicable

## NOTES:

1. Average SSMG award reflects multiple births.
2. There is no requirement to claim Cold Weather Payments.
3. The number of discretionary awards made after review is not included in the table. However, gross expenditure does include awards made after review, reconsideration or appeal.
4. For the regulated Social Fund, the method of calculating average awards is to divide gross expenditure by the number of awards (including those made after reconsideration or appeal).
5. For the discretionary Social Fund, the method of calculating average awards is to divide initial gross expenditure (excluding the value of review awards) by the number of initial awards.
6. The difference between applications received, initial decisions, awards and initial refusals, is due to: applications being withdrawn; applicants rejecting or not responding to loan offers; and, not decided at the time the count was made.
7. Cold Weather Payment figures are taken from Departmental records.
8. The Cold Weather Payment average award is the amount that is paid to each qualifying individual per trigger. Qualifying individuals can receive more than one payment during each Cold Weather Payment season.
9. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
10. The net expenditure for Budgeting Loans and Crisis Loans are negative, as total recoveries exceeded total gross expenditure for both schemes in 2011/12

## SURE START MATERNITY GRANTS AND FUNERAL PAYMENTS AWARDS BY CLAIMANT GROUP

Claimant Group	Sure Start Maternity Grants		Funeral Payments	
	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards
Pensioners	~	#	17.2	45.8
Unemployed	12.4	13.9	2.7	7.1
Disabled	4.1	4.6	3.9	10.2
Lone Parents	6.9	7.8	1.8	4.8
Employed	29.0	32.4	0.7	2.0
Others	37.0	41.3	11.3	30.1
Total	89.4	100.0	37.6	100.0

## AWARDS BY QUALIFYING BENEFIT OR TAX CREDIT

Qualifying Benefit	Sure Start Maternity Grants		Funeral Payments	
	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards
Income Support, Employment and Support Allowance (income-related), Jobseekers Allowance (income-based) and Pension Credit	59.9	67.0	27.7	74.0
Child Tax Credit (at a rate higher than the family element)/ Working Tax Credit (which includes a disability or a severe disability element)	29.5	33.0	2.9	8.0
Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit	N/A	N/A	6.9	18.0
Total	89.4	100.0	37.6	100.0

**NOTES:**

1. Claimant group definitions are in Annex 14.
2. These tables include awards made after reconsideration or appeal.
3. If an award is made to a claimant who receives more than one qualifying benefit or tax credit, then the award is recorded under the qualifying benefit or tax credit which appears first in the table above.
4. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
5. ~ represents less than 50.
6. # represents less than 0.5 percent.

## COLD WEATHER PAYMENT STATISTICS BY MET OFFICE WEATHER STATION

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Aberporth	Carmarthen W, E Dinefwr & S. Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, & Preseli Pembrokeshire	4,700	0	0	0.00
Aboyne	Aberdeen N/S, Angus, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Moray, W Aberdeenshire & Kincardine	7,500	3	22,500	0.56
Albemarle	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Bishop Auckland, Blaydon, Blyth Valley, City of Durham, Easington, Hexham, Houghton & Sunderland South, Jarrow, Newcastle upon Tyne Central/East/North, N. Durham, N. Tyneside, NW. Durham, Sedgefield, S Shields, Stockton N & S, Tynemouth, Washington & Sunderland W, Gateshead, Sunderland Central	147,400	1	147,400	3.69
Andrewsfield	Braintree, Brentwood & Ongar, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Epping Forest, Harlow, Hertford & Stortford, Hornchurch & Upminster, Huntingdon, Maldon, NE Bedfordshire, Saffron Walden, W Suffolk, Witham, Basildon & Billericay, NE Hertfordshire, Romford, S Basildon & E Thurrock, NE, S & SE Cambridgeshire	44,900	2	89,800	2.25
Auchincruive	Argyll & Bute, Ayr, Carrick & Cumnock, C Ayrshire, Dumfries & Galloway, N Ayrshire & Arran, Kilmarnock & Loudoun	37,300	0	0	0.00
Aultbea	Ross, Skye and Lochaber	300	0	0	0.00
Aviemore	Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey, Moray	800	3	2,400	0.06
Bainbridge	Bishop Auckland, Darlington, NW Durham, Pendle, Penrith & The Border, Ribble Valley, Richmond (Yorks), Skipton & Ripon	4,500	2	9,000	0.23

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Bedford	Banbury, Bedford, Buckingham, Corby, Daventry, Harborough, Kenilworth and Southam, Kettering, Mid/SW/NE Bedfordshire, Milton Keynes, Hitchin & Harpenden, Huntingdon S & N, Stevenage, North East Hertfordshire, S/N Northampton, S Northamptonshire, S Cambridgeshire, Wellesbourne	68,300	2	136,600	3.42
Bingley	Ashton-under-Lyne, Batley & Spen, Bolton NE, Bradford E/SW, Burnley, Bury N/S, Colne Valley, Dewsbury, Halifax, Heywood & Middleton, High Peak, Huddersfield, Leeds NE/NW, Morley & Outwood, Oldham W & Royston Oldham E & Saddleworth, Calder Valley, Hyndburn, Keighley Pendle, Pudsey, Hallam, Shipley, Penistone and Stocksbridge, Ribbles Valley, Rochdale, Rossendale & Darwen, Sheffield, Skipton & Ripon, Stalybridge & Hyde	114,300	2	228,600	5.72
Bisphopton	Airdrie & Shotts, Argyll & Bute, Coatbridge, Chryston & Bellshill, Cumbernauld, E Dunbartonshire, E Kilbride, Strathaven & Lesmahagow, Glasgow C/E/N/NE/NW/S/SW Inverclyde, Kilmarnock & Loudoun, Lanark & Hamilton E, Motherwell & Wishaw, Kilsyth & Kirkintilloch E, N Ayrshire & Arran, E Renfrewshire, Paisley and Renfrewshire N/S, Rutherglen & Hamilton West, Stirling, W Dunbartonshire	162,800	0	0	0.00
Boscombe Down	Devizes, E Hampshire, Eastleigh, Meon Valley, New Forest E/W, North Dorset, NW Hampshire, Salisbury, Romsey and Southampton North, Somerton & Frome, SW Wiltshire, Winchester	13,400	2	26,800	0.67
Boulmer	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Blyth Valley, Hexham, Wansbeck	13,400	0	0	0.00
Braemar	Angus, Perth & N Perthshire, W Aberdeenshire & Kincardine	1,200	4	4,800	0.12

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Brize Norton	Banbury, Buckingham, Henley, Newbury, Oxford E, Oxford W & Abingdon, The Cotswolds, Wantage, Witney, Wycombe, S Northamptonshire	19,500	2	39,000	0.98
Capel Curig	Aberconwy, Clwyd W, Dwyfor Meirionnydd	700	1	700	0.02
Cardinham (Bodmin)	North Cornwall, SE Cornwall, St Austell & Newquay, Torridge & W Devon, Truro & Falmouth	14,700	0	0	0.00
Carlisle	Carlisle, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale, Hexham, Penrith & The Border, Workington	10,000	0	0	0.00
Cassley	Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	300	1	300	0.01
Charlwood	Arundel and South Downs, Ashford, Bexhill & Battle, Brighton Kemptown, Chatham & Aylesford, Chichester, Dartford, E Surrey, E Worthing & Shoreham, Faversham & M Kent, Crawley Gravesham, Guildford, Reigate, Sevenoaks, Horsham, Lewes, Maidstone & The Weald, M Sussex, Mole Valley, Orpington, South West Surrey, Tonbridge & Malling, Tunbridge Wells, Wealden	46,500	2	93,000	2.33
Charterhall	Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Dumfriesshire, East Lothian, Clydesdale & Tweeddale	6,300	1	6,300	0.16
Chivenor	N Cornwall, N Devon, Torridge & W Devon	9,600	0	0	0.00
Coleshill	Birmingham Edgbaston/Erdington/Hall Green/Hodge Hill/Ladywood/Northfield, Birmingham, Perry Barr/Selly Oak/Yardley, Bosworth, Bromsgrove, Cannock Chase, Aldridge-Brownhills, Nuneaton, Rugby, Solihull, Sutton Coldfield, Tamworth, Coventry NE/NW/S, Daventry, Dudley N/S, Ludlow, Meriden, Halesowen & Rowley Regis, Kenilworth & Southam, Lichfield, M/N Worcestershire, NW Leicestershire, Redditch, S Leicestershire, S Staffordshire, Stafford, Stourbridge, Stratford-on-Avon, The Wrekin, Walsall N/S, Warley, Warrick & Leamington, W Bromwich E/W, West Worcestershire, Wolverhampton NE/SE/SW, Wyre Forest	318,900	2	637,800	15.95

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Crosby	Birkenhead, Blackburn, Blackpool S/N & Cleveleys, Bootle, Chorley, City of Chester, Ellesmere Port and Neston, Fylde, Garston & Halewood, Liverpool Riverside/Halton, Knowsley, Lancaster & Fleetwood, Southport, Wyre & Preston N, Wirral S/W, Walton/Wavertree/West Derby, Preston, Ribble Valley, Sefton C, Selby & Ainsty, S Ribble, St Helens South & Whiston, Wallasey, W Lancashire,	187,200	0	0	0.00
Culdrose	Camborne and Redruth, N Cornwall, St Austell & Newquay, St Lives, Truro & Falmouth	23,100	0	0	0.00
Dunkeswell Aerodrome	C/E Devon, Exeter, Tauton Deane, Tiverton & Honiton, W Dorset, Yeovil	18,900	2	37,800	0.95
Dunstaffnage	Argyll and Bute, Na h-Eileanan an Iar, Ross, Skye & Lochaber	1,500	0	0	0.00
Dyce	Aberdeen N/S, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, W Aberdeenshire & Kincardine	17,900	0	0	0.00
Edinburgh Gogarbank	Airdrie & Shotts, Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth & Kirkintilloch E, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale, Dunfermline & W Fife, Midlothian, E Lothian, Edinburgh E/N & Leith/S/SW/W Falkirk, Kirkcaldy & Cowdenbeath, Lanark & Hamilton E, Linlithgow & E Falkirk, Livingston, NE Fife, Ochil & S Perthshire, Stirling	77,400	0	0	0.00
Eskdalemuir	Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk, Dumfries & Galloway, Dumfriesshire, Penrith and The Border, Clydesdale & Teeddale	5,200	2	10,400	0.26
Filton	Bristol E/NW/S/W, Filton & Bradley Stoke, Forest of Dean, Kingswood, Ludlow, Monmouth. Newport E NE/N Somerset, Stroud, The Cotswolds, Thornbury & Yate, Wells, West-Super-Mare	60,800	1	60,800	1.52

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Fylingdales	Richmond (Yorks), Scarborough & Whitby, Thirsk & Malton, York Central	3,400	2	6,800	0.17
Gravesend	Basildon & Billericay, Beckenham, Bexleyheath & Crayford, Brentwood & Ongar, Dartford Bromley & Chislehurst, Castle Point, Chatham & Aylesford, Dagenham & Rainham, Barking, Eltham, Erith & Thamesmead, Rochester & Strood, Rochford & Southend, Faversham & M Kent, Gillingham & Rainham, Gravesham, Ilford N/S, Maldon, Hornchurch and Upminster, Old Bexley & Sidcup, Orpington, Rayleigh & Wickford, E, Romford, Sevenoaks, Sittingbourne & Sheppey, S Basildon & E Thurrock, Southend W, Thurrock	120,400	1	120,400	3.01
Hawarden Airport	Allyn and Deeside, City of Chester, Clwyd SW, Delyn, Eddisbury, Ellesmere Port & Neston, North Shropshire, Vale of Clwyd, Wrexham	27,700	1	27,700	0.69

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Heathrow	Barking, Battersea, Beaconsfield, Beckenham, Bermondsey & Old Southwark, Brent C/N, Brentford & Isleworth, Brentwood & Ongar, Bromley & Chislehurst, Broxbourne, Camberwell and Peckham, Carshalton & Wallington, Chelsea & Fulham, Bethnal Green & Bow, Chingford & Woodford Green, East Ham, Epping Forest Chipping Barnet, Cities of London & Westminster, Croydon C/N/S, Dulwich & W Norwood, Ealing Central & Acton/N/Southall, East Surrey, Edmonton, Eltham, Enfield N/Southgate, Epsom & Ewell, Erith & Thamesmead, Esher & Walton, Feltham & Heston, Finchley & Harlow E/W, Golders Green, Holborn & St Pancras, Kingston & Surbiton, Newbury, Greenwich & Woolwich, Hackney N & Stock Newington/S & Shoreditch, Hammersmith, Hampstead and Kilburn, Hayes & Harlington, Hendon, Hertford & Stortford, Hersmere, Hornsey and Wood Green, Ilford N/S, Islington N/S & Finsbury, Kensington, Lewisham E/W & Penge/Deptford, Leyton & Wanstead, Mitcham & Morden, Mole Valley, Old Bexley & Sidcup, Orpington, Poplar & Limehouse, Putney, Reigate, Richmond Park, Ruislip, Slough, St Albans, Vauxhall Northwood & Pinner, Runnymede & Weybridge, SW Hertfordshire, Spelthorne, Streattham, Sutton & Cheam, Tooting, Tottenham, Twickenham, Uxbridge & S Ruislip, Walthamstow, Watford, West Ham, Westminster N, Wimbledon, Windsor, Woking	535,000	1	535,000	13.38
Hereford-Credenhill	Cheltenham, Forest of Dean, Gloucester, Hereford & S Herefordshire, M Ludlow, Mid Worcestershire, Monmouth, N Herefordshire, Redditch, Stratford-on-Avon, Brecon & Radnorshire, Stroud, Tewkesbury, The Cotswolds, W Worcestershire, Worcester, Wyre Forest	57,300	2	114,600	2.87

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Herstmonceux West End	Bexhill and Battle, Brighton, Kemptown, E Worthing & Shoreham, Eastbourne, Hastings & Rye, M Sussex, Wealden, Folkestone & Hythe, Lewes	28,100	2	56,200	1.41
High Wycombe	Aylesbury, Banbury, Beaconsfield, Buckingham, Chesham & Amersham, Henley, South West Hertfordshire, Maidenhead Wycombe	16,800	2	33,600	0.84
Hurn (Bournemouth Airport)	Bournemouth EMW, Christchurch, Mid Dorset & N Poole, New Forest EMW, N Dorset, Poole, SW Dorset, Salisbury	39,800	1	39,800	1.00
Isle of Portland	SW Dorset	5,400	0	0	0.00
Keele	Burton, Congleton, Crewe & Nantwich, Derbyshire Dales, Eddisbury, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, The Wrekin, N/S Shropshire, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent C/N/S, Stone,	47,900	2	95,800	2.40
Kinloss	Caithness, Sutherland & Easter Ross, Inverness, Nairn, Baenoch & Strathspey, Moray, Ross, Skye & Lochaber, Banff & Buchan,	14,000	0	0	0.00
Kirkwall	Orkney and Shetland	1,200	0	0	0.00
Lake Vyrnwy	Clwyd SW, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Ludlow, Montgomeryshire, N Shropshire, Shrewsbury & Atcham	5,500	2	11,000	0.28
Leconfield	Beverley & Holderness, Brigg & Goole, Doncaster N, E Yorkshire, Haltemprice & Howden, Kingston upon Hull E/NW Hessle, Scarborough & Whitby, Selby & Ainsty, Thirsk & Malton	54,300	2	108,600	2.72
Leek	Burton, Derbyshire Dales, Hazel Grove, High Peak, Macclesfield, NE Derbyshire, Stockport, Stoke-on-Trent C/N Stone, Staffordshire Moorlands	9,100	2	18,200	0.46
Lerwick	Orkney and Shetland	1,100	0	0	0.00

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Leuchars	Angus, Dundee E/W, Dunfermline & W Fife, Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy & Cowdenbeath, Ochil and S Perthshire, Perth & N Perthshire, W Aberdeenshire & Kincardine, NE Fife,	40,300	0	0	0.00
Linton on Ouse	Beverley & Holderness, Bishop Auckland, Bradford E, Darlington, E Yorkshire, Haltemprice & Howden, Harrogate & Knaresborough, Keighley, Leeds C/E/NE/ NW/W, Pudsey, Shipley, Selby & Ainsty, Middlesbrough S & E Cleveland, Morley & Outwood, Richmond (Yorks), Sedgfield, Skipton & Ripon, Stockton N/S, Thirsk & Malton, York C/Outer, Elmet & Rothwell	85,000	2	170,000	4.25
Liscombe	Bridgwater & W Somerset, C/N Devon, Tiverton & Honiton	4,300	2	8,600	0.22
Little Rissington	Banbury, Cheltenham, Henley, Kenilworth & Southam, Mid Worcestershire, Witney, Oxford W & Abingdon, S Northamptonshire, Stratford-on-Avon, Tewkesbury, The Cotswolds, W Worcestershire	7,200	2	14,400	0.36
Loch Glascarnoch	Caithness, Sutherland & Easter Ross, Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Stathspey, Ross, Skye & Lochaber	900	4	3,600	0.09
Loftus	Easington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Middlesbrough S & E Cleveland, Redcar, Scarborough & Whitby, Sedgfield, Stockton N/S, Richmond (Yorks)	56,100	0	0	0.00
Lusa	Ross, Skye and Lochaber	1,200	0	0	0.00
Lyneham	Bath, Chippenham, Kingswood, Newbury, NE Somerset, N Swindon, Somerton & Frome, S Swindon, Stroud, The Cotswolds, Thornbury & Yate, Devizes, N/SW Wiltshire, Wantage, Wells, Witney	38,700	2	77,400	1.94
Machrihanish	Argyll and Bute, N Ayrshire & Arran	1,600	0	0	0.00
Manston	Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Faversham & Mid Kent, Folkestone & Hythe, Sittingbourne & Sheppey, N/S Thanet, Gillingham & Rainham	53,900	2	107,800	2.70

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Marham	Boston & Skegness, Broadland, M/NW/SW Norfolk, NE/S/ SE Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Sffron Walden, S Holland & The Deepings, W Suffolk, Bury St Edmunds,	26,800	2	53,600	1.34
Mona	Aberconwy, Arfon, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Ynys Mon	13,400	0	0	0.00
North Wyke	C/N/SW Devon, Exeter, Newton Abbot, N Cornwall, Torbay, Torridge & W Devon, Totnes	30,000	1	30,000	0.75
Norwich Airport	Broadland, Great Yarmouth, M/N/NW/S/SW Norfolk, Suffolk Coastal, Waveney	52,100	2	104,200	2.61
Nottingham (Watnall)	Amber Valley, Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Bosworth, Broxtowe, Burton, Chamwood, Derby N/S, Derbyshire Dales, Gedling, Grantham & Stamford, Harborough, Kettering, Lichfield, Loughborough, Mansfield, Mid/NE Derbyshire, Newark, NW/S Leicestershire, Nottingham E/N/S, Nuneaton, Rugby, Rushcliffe, Rutland & Melton, Sherwood, Sleaford & N Hykeham, Staffordshire Moorlands, Erewash, Leicester E/SW, Corby, Daventry, S Derbyshire	178,800	2	357,600	8.94
Pembrey Sands	Aberavon, Carmarthen E & Dinefwr, Carmarthen W & S Pembrokeshire, Gower, Llanelli, Preseli Pembrokeshire, Swansea E/W, Neath	43,600	0	0	0.00
Plymouth	Plymouth, Moor View/Sutton & Devonport, SS Cornwall, SW Devon, Torridge & W Devon, Totnes	23,800	0	0	0.00
Redesdale	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Carlisle, City of Durham, Hexham, NW Durham, Penrith & The Border	4,500	2	9,000	0.23
Rhyl	Aberconwy, Clwyd W, Delybn, Vale of Clwyd	17,300	0	0	0.00

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Rothamsted	Broxbourne, Buckingham, Chesham & Amersham, Chipping Barnet, Enfield N/Southgate, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford & Stortford, Hemsmere, Hitchin & Harpenden, Luton N/S, Harrow E, Ruislip, St Albans, Mid/SW Bedfordshire, NE/SW Hertfordshire, Northwood & Pinner, Stevenage, Watford, Welwyn Hatfield	57,500	2	115,000	2.88
Salsburgh	Airdrie & Shotts, Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk, Coatbridge, Chryston & Bellshill, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch E, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale, Falkirk, Midlothian, Lanark & Hamilton E, Linlithgow & E Falkirk, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale, E Kilbride, Strathaven & Lesmahagow	20,400	1	20,400	0.51
Scilly St Marys	St Ives	100	0	0	0.00
Sennybridge	Brecon & Radnorshire, Carmarthen E & Dinefwr, Ludlow, Montgomeryshire, N Herefordshire	4,900	2	9,800	0.25
Shap	Copeland, Penrith & The Border, Richmond (Yorks), Westmorland & Lonsdale, Workington	5,000	2	10,000	0.25
Shawbury	Clwyd S, Eddisbury, Ludlow, Montgomeryshire, N Shropshire, Shrewsbury & Atcham, The Wrekin, Stone, Telford, Stafford	26,200	2	52,400	1.31
Sheffield	Barnsley C/E, Bassetlaw, Batley & Spen, Bolsover, Brigg & Goole, Calder Valley, Derbyshire Dales, Dewsbury, Don Valley, Doncaster C/N, Elmet & Rothwell, Hemsworth, Chesterfield, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Morley & Outwood, Selby & Ainsty, Newark, Normanton, Pontefract & Castleford, NE Derbyshire, Penistone & Stocksbridge, Rother Valley, Rotherham, Sheffield C/SE/ Brightside & Hillsborough/Hallam/Heeley, Wentworth & Dearne, Colne Valley	183,300	0	0	0.00

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
S Farnborough	Aldershot, Arundel & S Downs, Basingstoke, Beaconsfield, Bracknell, Chichester, Henley, Maidenhead, Meon Valley, Mole Valley, Newbury, NE/NW Hampshire, Wantage, Reading E/W, Runnymede and Weybridge, SW Surrey, Woking, E Hampshire, Guildford, Slough, Windsor, Surrey Heath, Winchester, Wokingham	65,300	2	130,600	3.27
St. Athan	Aberavon, Brecon & Radnorshire, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff C/N/S & Penarth/W, Cynon Valley, Islwyn, Monmouth, Neath, Newport E/W, Ogmore, Pontypridd, Swansea W, Vale of Glamorgan	72,900	0	0	0.00
St. Bees Head	Copeland, Workington	9,200	0	0	0.00
Stonyhurst	Blackburn, Chorley, Hyndburn, Lancaster & Fleetwood, Morecambe & Lunesdale, Pendle, Rossendale & Darwen, Skipton & Ripon, Westmorland & Lonsdale, Ribble Valley	25,400	1	25,400	0.64
Stornoway Airport	Na h-Eileanan an Iar	2,600	0	0	0.00
Strathallan	Argyll & Bute, Dunfermline & West Fife, NE Fife, Ochil & S Perthshire, Perth & N West Dunbartonshire, Perthshire, Stirling	10,000	1	10,000	0.25
Thorney Island	Arundel & S Downs, Bognor Regis & Littlehampton, Brighton Kempstown/Pavilion, Gosport E Worthing & Shoreham, Fareham, Havant, Hove, Isle of Wight, Lewes, Meon Valley, New Forest E/W, Portsmouth N/S, Romsey & Southampton N, Salisbury, Winchester, E/NW Hampshire, Southampton Itchen/Test, Wealden, Chichester, Worthing W, Eastleigh	122,700	1	122,700	3.07
Threave	Ayr, Carrick & Cumnock, Dumfries & Galloway, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale	6,600	1	6,600	0.17
Tiree	Argyll & Bute, Ross, Skye & Lochaber	100	0	0	0.00
Trawsgoed	Brecon & Radnorshire, Ceredigion, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Montgomeryshire	3,400	0	0	0.00

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Tredegar	Blaenau Gwent, Brecon & Radnorshire, Caerphilly, Carmarthen E & Dinefwr, Cynon Valley, Islwyn, Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney, Monmouth, Neath, Ogmore, Pontypridd, Rhondda, Torfaen, Cardiff N	61,700	2	123,400	3.09
Tulloch Bridge	Argyll & Bute, Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey, Perth & N Perthshire, Ross, Stirling, Skye & Lochaber,	1,900	1	1,900	0.05
Waddington	Bassetlaw, Boston & Skegness, Brigg & Goole, Cleethorpes, Don Valley, Doncaster C, Grantham & Stamford, Great Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth & Horncastle, Newark, Scunthorpe, Sleaford & N Hykeham, S Holland & The Deepings, Gainsborough, Selby & Ainsty	71,000	2	142,000	3.55
Walney Island	Barrow & Furness, Copeland, Lancaster & Fleetwood, Morecambe & Lunesdale, Westmorland & Lonsdale	17,700	0	0	0.00
Wattisham	Braintree, Bury St Edmunds, C Suffolk & N Ipswich, Clacton, Colchester, Harwich & N Essex, Ipswich, SE Cambridgeshire, S/SW Norfolk, S/W Suffolk, Suffolk Coastal, Waveney, Witham	57,500	2	115,000	2.88
Wick Airport	Caithness, Sutherland & Easter Ross	2,600	0	0	0.00
Wittering	Boston & Skegness, Corby, Grantham & Stamford, Huntingdon, Kettering, NE Bedfordshire, Peterborough, NW/NE/SE Cambridgeshire, Rutland & Melton, S Holland and The Deepings	30,400	2	60,800	1.52

Weather station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	No. eligible for a payment	Triggers	No. of payments	Expenditure £m
Woodford	Altrincham & Sale W, Ashton-under-Lyne, Blackley & Broughton, Bury N/S, Cheadle, Crewe & Nantwich, Denton & Reddish, Eddisbury, Ellesmere Port & Newton, Chorley, Garston & Halewood, Makerfield, Congleton, Stockport, S Ribble, Halton, Hazel Grove, Heywood & Middleton, High Peak, Knowsley, Leigh, Macclesfield, Manchester C/Gorton/Withington, Oldham E & Saddleworth, , Rossendale & Darwen, Salford & Eccles, St Helens N/S & Whiston, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stalybridge & Hyde, Stretford & Urmston, Tatton, Warrington N/S, W Weaver Vale, W Lancashire, Wigan, Worsley & Eccles S, Wythenshawe & Sale E, Bolton NE/ SE/W, Oldham W & Royton	267,000	2	534,000	13.35
Yeovilton	Bridgwater & W Somerset, N/W Dorset, Somerton & Frome, Taunton Deane, Weston-Super-Mare, Yeovil, Tiverton & Honiton, Wells	29,000	1	29,000	0.73
<b>Great Britain</b>		<b>4,240,200</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>5,166,900</b>	<b>129.17</b>

#### Notes

1. There is no requirement to claim Cold Weather Payments.
2. A Cold Weather Payments is made to an eligible customer when the average temperature has been recorded as, or is forecast to be, 0°C or below over seven consecutive days at the weather station linked to the customer's postcode (When the temperature criterion is met, the weather station is said to trigger).
3. Cold Weather Payments are made to benefit units. A benefit unit can be a single person or a couple and can include children.
4. Cold Weather Payment figures are taken from Departmental records.
5. The number of eligible benefit units linked to each weather station are estimates.
6. The number of payments and expenditure are estimates and do not include payments made clerically.
7. The number of eligible benefit units and payments made are rounded to the nearest 100.
8. The weather stations are mapped to Parliamentary Constituency by postcode.
9. Each weather station will cover areas outside of the Parliamentary Constituency.
10. Figures may not sum due to rounding.

## DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AND LOANS

### STATISTICS BY JOBCENTRE PLUS SOCIAL FUND BUDGET AREA

Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area by region	Community Care Grants			Budgeting Loans			Crisis Loans		
	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m
<b>East of England</b>									
Essex	12,000	3,900	2.4	34,700	24,800	10.0	57,600	45,800	3.3
Norwich BDC	25,700	9,600	5.9	64,000	45,300	19.1	117,600	94,800	5.9
<b>East Midlands</b>									
East Midlands North	16,700	5,600	3.6	56,300	41,200	16.4	71,100	56,500	3.5
South East Midlands	20,200	7,500	5.0	59,900	42,600	16.8	85,900	67,300	4.4
<b>London</b>									
Central and East London	20,600	7,300	7.0	42,500	29,500	12.7	57,300	44,700	3.3
London South	29,300	9,700	8.7	69,400	48,900	21.3	98,100	77,300	6.0
North and North East London	15,800	5,100	4.3	47,700	33,200	14.8	58,800	45,700	3.4
West London	12,000	4,100	3.6	27,900	19,000	8.6	48,200	38,700	2.5
<b>North East</b>									
Northumbria	14,300	5,400	2.7	42,400	30,200	10.8	56,900	45,600	2.8
South Tyne and Wear Valley	12,800	4,400	2.5	42,000	31,400	11.7	65,700	51,100	3.3
Tees Valley	12,000	4,500	2.5	36,100	27,400	10.1	49,300	37,900	2.4
<b>North West</b>									
Chorlton BDC	54,200	22,700	12.2	146,200	100,700	39.2	277,200	225,500	13.9
Greater Liverpool and Cheshire	32,300	14,800	8.1	94,800	69,300	26.1	164,400	129,000	8.3

Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area by region	Community Care Grants			Budgeting Loans			Crisis Loans		
	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m
<b>Scotland</b>									
Inverness BDC	23,000	7,800	5.4	51,800	36,700	13.4	103,600	84,800	5.0
Springburn BDC	57,500	20,900	15.0	127,700	91,300	35.0	229,500	186,600	11.2
<b>South East</b>									
South East – Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey	12,700	5,400	2.7	32,700	23,500	10.6	82,100	70,900	4.6
South East – Hampshire, Kent and Sussex	30,500	12,900	6.1	87,900	62,100	26.5	181,800	151,800	10.1
<b>South West</b>									
South West Central	34,700	10,100	7.9	82,900	58,200	23.5	150,200	122,800	7.9
<b>Wales</b>									
Llanelli BDC	11,300	3,300	2.4	28,900	20,700	8.1	44,200	35,100	2.3
South East Wales	25,200	7,400	5.6	70,900	50,300	19.7	94,400	74,500	4.9
<b>West Midlands</b>									
West Midlands SF	57,400	20,700	13.2	168,300	120,100	48.5	244,000	192,500	12.5
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber</b>									
Y & H Bradford	17,200	6,100	3.3	46,900	32,600	12.7	77,300	59,500	3.8
Y & H Sheffield	40,600	17,100	9.1	120,200	83,200	31.8	170,500	132,600	7.9

**NOTES:**

1. The number of discretionary awards made after review is not included in the table. However, gross expenditure does include awards made after review, reconsideration or appeal.
2. The difference between applications received, initial decisions, awards and initial refusals, is due to: applications being withdrawn; applicants rejecting or not responding to loan offers; and, not decided at the time the count was made.
3. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100 and expenditure is shown in £ million.

## DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AND LOANS

### GROSS EXPENDITURE BY APPLICANT GROUP

Applicant Group	Community Care Grants		Budgeting Loans		Crisis Loans	
	Amount £m	% of Total Amount	Amount £m	% of Total Amount	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Pensioners	9.7	7.0	36.3	8.1	0.6	0.5
Unemployed	29.8	21.4	80.5	18.0	82.3	61.7
Disabled	43.4	31.2	118.8	26.5	21.2	15.9
Lone Parents	41.3	29.6	181.5	40.6	17.0	12.8
Others	15.1	10.8	30.4	6.8	12.1	9.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>139.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>447.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>133.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## NOTES:

1. Applicant group definitions are in Annex 14.
2. This table includes awards on review.
3. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

## COMMUNITY CARE GRANTS

### EXPENDITURE BY DIRECTION 4

Direction 4 Condition Satisfied	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Direction 4(a)(i) People moving out of institutional or residential care	10.3	7.4
Direction 4(a)(ii) Helping people stay in the community	41.9	30.1
Direction 4(a)(iii) Families under exceptional pressure	77.2	55.5
Direction 4(a)(iv) Prisoner or young offender on release on temporary licence	0.2	0.1
Direction 4(a)(v) People setting up home as a planned programme of resettlement	8.3	5.9
Direction 4(b) Travelling expenses	1.3	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>139.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## NOTES:

1. If more than one condition is satisfied by an application it will be recorded under the first condition, in the order set out in the table.
2. This table includes awards on review.
3. Figures are estimated as the Management Information System does not split expenditure made after a review by the part of direction 4 satisfied.
4. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

## COMMUNITY CARE GRANTS

### REASONS FOR INITIAL REFUSAL BY APPLICANT GROUP

#### Counts

Reason for Refusal	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
Savings sufficient to meet cost	100	~	100	~	~	300
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit & unlikely to be	1,100	21,400	16,800	3,800	25,600	68,600
Excluded items	1,100	8,100	5,000	6,500	2,500	23,300
Amount less than £30, not travelling expenses	~	100	200	100	100	500
Direction 4 not satisfied	10,000	96,100	42,900	55,600	23,700	228,300
Previous application and decision	1,100	8,100	6,900	5,700	2,600	24,300
Insufficient priority	2,100	4,100	8,400	4,500	2,800	21,800
Other	300	300	800	400	300	2,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,800</b>	<b>138,200</b>	<b>80,900</b>	<b>76,500</b>	<b>57,700</b>	<b>369,100</b>

## Percentages

Reason for Refusal	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
Savings sufficient to meet costs	0.8%	#	#	#	#	#
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit & unlikely to be	7.1%	15.5%	20.7%	4.9%	44.4%	18.6%
Excluded items	7.0%	5.9%	6.1%	8.5%	4.4%	6.3%
Amount less than £30, not travelling expenses	#	#	#	#	#	#
Direction 4 not satisfied	63.2%	69.5%	53.0%	72.7%	41.0%	61.8%
Previous application and decision	6.8%	5.8%	8.5%	7.4%	4.6%	6.6%
Insufficient priority	13.0%	3.0%	10.3%	5.8%	4.9%	5.9%
Other	2.0%	#	1.0%	#	#	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### NOTES:

1. The qualifying benefits are: *INCOME SUPPORT; INCOME-RELATED EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE; INCOME-BASED JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE; PENSION CREDIT.*
2. Applicant group definitions are in Annex 14.
3. Refusals are rounded to the nearest 100.
4. Percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent.
5. ~ represents less than 50.
6. # represents less than 0.5 percent.
7. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

## BUDGETING LOANS

### INITIAL AWARDS BY FAMILY COMPOSITION (INCLUDING COMPARISON WITH 2010/11)

	Number of Awards (000)	Gross Expenditure £m	Average Award £	% of Total Number of Awards		% of Total Gross Expenditure	
				2010/11	2011/12	2010/11	2011/12
Single person, no children	460	129.3	281	40.1	41.2	28.4	29.4
Couple, no children	67	24.4	362	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.5
Single person or couple with children	589	286.1	486	54.0	52.8	66.1	65.1

**NOTES:**

1. This table does not include awards and gross expenditure on review.
2. This table does not include 6,500 awards for which no partner flag was recorded. This accounts for less than 1% of the total number of initial awards. This means that the total gross expenditure or total number of awards in this Annex will not match Annex 1.
3. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
4. These figures were obtained from scans of the Social Fund Computer System.

## BUDGETING LOANS

### REASONS FOR INITIAL REFUSAL BY APPLICANT GROUP

#### Counts

	Pensioners	Disabled	Lone Parents	Unemployed	Others	Total
Outstanding Social Fund debt	6,000	49,100	30,600	73,900	18,500	178,100
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit	600	15,300	1,700	27,700	40,800	86,100
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit for 26 weeks	1,000	11,800	20,900	81,600	14,400	129,600
Other	700	3,400	4,000	7,800	1,500	17,400
Total	8,200	79,600	57,200	191,000	75,200	411,200

#### Percentages

	Pensioners	Disabled	Lone Parents	Unemployed	Others	Total
Outstanding Social Fund debt	73.3	61.6	53.6	38.7	24.6	43.3
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit	7.1	19.3	2.9	14.5	54.3	20.9
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit for 26 weeks	11.6	14.8	36.6	42.7	19.1	31.5
Other	8.0	4.3	6.9	4.1	2.0	4.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

#### NOTES:

1. The qualifying benefits are: INCOME SUPPORT; INCOME-RELATED EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE; INCOME-BASED JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE; PENSION CREDIT.
2. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100 and percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent.

CRISIS LOANS

GROSS EXPENDITURE BY APPLICATION PURPOSE

Purpose	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Items or services	9.4	7.1
Rent in advance	10.4	7.8
Living expenses (general)	54.1	40.7
Living expenses (alignment) <sup>(2)</sup>	59.0	44.4

NOTES:

1. This table includes awards on review.
2. An alignment payment is to cover living expenses up to the first payment of benefit or wages.
3. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

## CRISIS LOANS

### REASONS FOR INITIAL REFUSAL BY APPLICANT GROUP

*Counts*

	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
No serious risk to health & safety	1,500	227,700	52,800	35,900	29,300	347,300
Help available from another source	~	~	~	~	~	100
Excluded items	200	6,300	1,900	1,800	2,600	12,800
Inability to repay	~	12,200	3,000	1,400	1,500	18,000
Suitable alternative	~	~	~	~	~	100
Enough money to pay for crisis	~	~	~	~	~	~
Previous application and decision	100	13,900	2,300	700	1,500	18,500
Insufficient priority	~	200	100	~	~	500
Benefit sanction/disallowance	~	31,400	500	300	700	32,800
Other	100	11,800	3,200	2,000	2,000	19,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>303,600</b>	<b>63,900</b>	<b>42,200</b>	<b>37,700</b>	<b>449,100</b>

**Percentages**

	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
No serious risk to health & safety	83.4%	75.0%	82.7%	85.1%	77.9%	77.3%
Help available from another source	#	#	#	#	#	#
Excluded items	8.8%	2.1%	3.0%	4.3%	6.9%	2.9%
Inability to repay	1.1%	4.0%	4.7%	3.2%	3.9%	4.0%
Suitable alternative	#	#	#	#	#	#
Enough money to pay for crisis	#	#	#	#	#	#
Previous application and decision	3.1%	4.6%	3.7%	1.8%	3.9%	4.1%
Insufficient priority	#	#	#	#	#	#
Benefit sanction/disallowance	#	10.3%	0.7%	0.7%	1.8%	7.3%
Other	3.1%	3.9%	4.9%	4.7%	5.2%	4.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**NOTES:**

1. Applicant group definitions are in Annex 13.
2. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100 and percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent.
3. ~ represents less than 50.
4. # represents less than 0.5 percent.
5. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
6. The 'Other' reasons category includes initial refusals where Direction 14c has not been satisfied.

## LOAN RECOVERY

### AVERAGE WEEKLY REPAYMENT DEDUCTIONS FROM INCOME SUPPORT, JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE AND PENSION CREDIT

		Feb 2011	May 2011	Aug 2011	Nov 2011
Average deduction	IS	£12.20	£12.23	£12.34	£12.73
	JSA	£8.49	£8.52	£8.65	£8.75
	PC	£12.29	£12.53	£12.88	£12.62
Number of deductions	IS	518,500	542,900	524,100	521,700
	JSA	160,800	176,500	245,600	268,200
	PC	61,500	61,200	63,500	62,100

**NOTES:**

1. Data from Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance and Pension Credit Quarterly Statistical Enquiries.
2. The numbers of deductions are rounded to the nearest 100.
3. Data for February 2012 (Quarter 1 2012) has not yet been released.

### REPAYMENT SOURCE 2011/12

	Crisis Loans		Budgeting Loans	
	Amount £m	% of Total Amount	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Income Support & Pension Credit	53.0	35.7	328.8	71.7
Jobseekers Allowance	58.0	39.1	77.6	16.9
Employment and Support Allowance	18.7	12.6	28.9	6.3
Incapacity Benefit	7.5	5.1	3.2	0.7
Other benefits	1.8	1.2	5.2	1.1
Cash	9.5	6.4	15.0	3.3

**NOTES:**

1. Social Fund loans are recoverable from most Social Security benefits.
2. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

## SUMMARY OF SOCIAL FUND REVIEW APPLICATIONS

First Reviews	CCG	BL	CL	Total
Number of applications for first review	120,200	26,700	57,000	203,900
Number of decisions revised at first review	38,400	4,400	18,300	61,100
Percentage	31.9	16.7	32.1	30.0

IRS Reviews	CCG	BL	CL	Total
Number of applications for Social Fund Inspector(SFI) review	36,660	5,140	9,620	51,420
IRS Decisions	36,560	5,120	9,630	51,310
Number of reviewing officer decisions reviewed	35,200	4,700	9,010	48,910
Number of reviewing officer decisions confirmed	20,330	4,510	6,390	31,230
Percentage confirmed	57.7	96.0	71.0	63.8
Number of reviewing officer decisions substituted by SFI	14,870	190	2,620	17,680
Percentage substituted	42.2	4.0	29.0	36.1
Number of reviewing officer decisions referred back	6	0	0	6
Percentage referred back	0.02	~	~	0.01

**NOTES:**

1. This does not include 800 decisions made under section 38(5) of the Act. In these cases the Social Fund Inspector is reviewing a Social Fund Inspector's decision not a decision made at Jobcentre Plus. The law does not give the Social Fund Inspector the power to confirm, substitute or refer back; an Inspector can only change or not change the decision.
2. The number of reviewing officer decisions reviewed excludes applications for Social Fund Inspector review that were outside the Inspector's jurisdiction or withdrawn.
3. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.
4. Percentages have been calculated using non-rounded figures.
5. ~ represents less than 5.
6. # represents less than 0.5 percent.
7. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

## APPEALS

### SOCIAL FUND APPEALS DEALT WITH AT THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL

2011/12

Type of Payment	Number of appeals	Number heard and decided at hearing	Number decided in appellant's favour	Percentage decided in appellant's favour
Funeral Payments	3,880	3,080	330	11%
Sure Start Maternity Grants	3,470	2,220	50	2%

**SOURCE:**

*Figures are provided by the First-tier Tribunal.*

**NOTES:**

1. *The number of appeals is the number received by the Social Security and Child Support Appeals Tribunal.*
2. *Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.*
3. *Percentages have been calculated using non-rounded figures.*

## Client Groups

Social Fund payments are wide ranging from payments to help with intermittent unexpected expenses (mainly to those in receipt of qualifying benefits), to payments aimed at certain groups to help with particular events. The fund does not therefore fall exclusively into any one of the Departmental client groups of **Children, Working Age and Older People**, although Social Fund payments are either paid to, or benefit, all of these groups. Some statistics in this report are shown by applicant or claimant groups that fall into one or more of the wider client groups.

### APPLICANT OR CLAIMANT GROUP DEFINITIONS

---

#### PENSIONERS

Includes:

- applicant or partner at minimum state pension age or over with Pension Credit
- applicant or partner at minimum state pension age or over in receipt of state retirement pension

Includes also where applicant is under minimum state pension age and partner is:

- minimum state pension age or over with Income Support (IS) pensioner premium
  - 80 or over with IS higher pensioner premium
  - minimum state pension age to 79, disabled with IS higher pensioner premium
- 

#### UNEMPLOYED

Includes:

- unemployed or with training allowance
- 

#### DISABLED

Includes:

- in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance
  - applicant or partner aged under minimum state pension age with IS disability premium
  - lone parent with IS disability premium
  - family with IS disability premium
  - others with IS disability premium
  - in receipt of other benefit for incapacity or disablement
- 

#### LONE PARENT

Includes:

- person who has no partner and in receipt of Income Support because they are responsible for a child
- 

#### OTHERS

Includes:

- others
- involved in a trade dispute
- in paid employment
- not known or unallocated

NOTE: It is possible that an applicant who is unemployed may receive a disability or pensioner premium. Such an applicant would be counted as Unemployed.



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